



The Forgotten Home Child

by

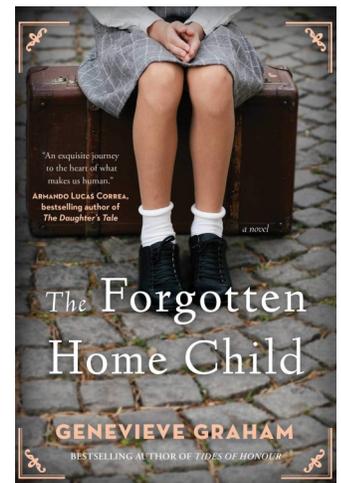
Genevieve Graham

Discussion Questions

1. Did you know who the British Home Children were before reading this book? How does this chapter in history shape your understanding of Canada as a British colony and as its own nation?
2. Winnie's family moves from Ireland to England for a better life, but they experience tragedy, poverty, and hunger. Compare and contrast her early life with Mary and Jack's, and discuss the different events that drove them to the streets along with so many other children. What might this say about the economic reality of England at this time?
3. In the present-day storyline, Winnie says that Dr. Barnardo "was a well-intentioned man with a good heart." After reading this book, what do you think of Dr. Barnardo and his Homes, and later, his plan to send children to Canada? Was there any merit to his actions? Where did his plan go wrong? And why?
4. Winnie and her friends were told that Canada was a land of opportunity and that there were families waiting to take them in as their own, but in most cases, this was far from the truth. Why do you think there was so much hostility toward the Home Children? Do you think Canada is more welcoming to newcomers now? What prejudices still exist today?
5. Canada was a country struggling through the Great Depression and on the brink of another world war. Did knowing this historical backdrop change how you saw the actions of Mistress Adams and Mistress Renfrew?
5. Why does Jack connect with the messages in *The Communist Manifesto*? How does this reference contextualize Jack's personal story within a larger socioeconomic lens?
6. Consider the dual timeline structure of the novel. How does this reflect the experience of the Home Children?



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About the Author

Genevieve Graham is the USA TODAY and #1 bestselling author of The *Forgotten Home Child*, *Letters Across the Sea*, *Tides of Honour*, *Promises to Keep*, *Come from Away*, and *At the Mountain's Edge*. Her latest novel, *Bluebird*, will be published April 2022. She is passionate about breathing life back into Canadian history through tales of love and adventure. She lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Visit her at GenevieveGraham.com or on Twitter and Instagram @GenGrahamAuthor.

This book is available for download as an eBook. For more information, please visit lpl.overdrive.com or call 519-661-4600.

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